Serial No.: 10/070,056 Docket No.: 29288,5300

## **Amendments To Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

## **Listing of Claims:**

1. (original) A commodity recycling method, comprising the steps of:

selling or renting a commodity to a first user;

collecting the commodity from the first user;

estimating a remaining life of the commodity based on information indicating a usage history of the commodity recorded in a recording section provided in the commodity;

determining sale terms or lease terms based on the estimated remaining life of the commodity;

selling or renting the commodity to a second user in accordance with the sale terms or the lease terms;

collecting the commodity from the second user; and

dismantling the commodity into a plurality of parts after the collection of the commodity from the second user,

wherein the recording section records the information indicating the usage history of the commodity in a manner in which it is substantially impossible for a user of the commodity to alter the usage history information.

- 2. (currently amended) Acommodityrecyclingmethodaccordingto claim 1, A commodity recycling method according to claim 1, wherein the sale and renting to the first user and the collection of the commodity from the first user are performed in a first country, and the sale and renting of the commodity to the second user and the collection of the commodity from the second user are performed in a second country, which is different from the first country.
- 3. (currently amended) Acommodityrecyclingmethodaccordingto claim 2, A commodity recycling method according to claim 2, wherein the dismantling of the commodity into a plurality of parts is performed in the second country.

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4. (currently amended) Acommodityrecyclingmethodaccordingto claim 3, A commodity recycling method according to claim 3, wherein techniques for dismantling the commodity are transferred from the first country to the second country.

- 5. (currently amended) Acommodityrecyclingmethodaccordingto claim 3, A commodity recycling method according to claim 3, wherein a guidance on the techniques for dismantling the commodity is provided in the second country.
- 6. (currently amended) Acommodityrecyclingmethodaccordingto claim 1, A commodity recycling method according to claim 1, wherein the commodity includes a device for sending particular information which is particular to the commodity.
- 7. (currently amended) Acommodityrecyclingmethodaccordingto claim 6, A commodity recycling method according to claim 6, wherein the particular information includes distribution information for specifying a party involved in a distribution of the commodity, and when the particular information from the commodity ceases, notifies a party involved in the distribution of the commodity, which is specified by the distribution information included in the most recent piece of particular information from the commodity, that the particular information from the commodity has ceased.
- 8. (currently amended) Acommodityrecyclingmethodaccordingto claim 1, A commodity recycling method according to claim 1, wherein the step of estimating the remaining life of the commodity comprises a step of obtaining the information indicating the usage history recoded in the recording section via a network.
- 9. (currently amended) A commodity recycling method. comprising the steps of:
  selling or renting a commodity to a first user;
  collecting the commodity from the first user;
  estimating a remaining life of the commodity based on information indicating a usage
  history of the commodity recorded in a recording section provided in the commodity;

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determining sale terms or lease terms based on the estimated remaining life of the commodity;

selling or renting the commodity to a second user <u>in accordance with the sale terms or the</u> <u>lease terms</u>;

collecting the commodity from the second user; and

dismantling the commodity into a plurality of parts after the collection of the commodity from the second user,

wherein the sale and renting to the first user and the collection of the commodity from the first user are performed in a first country, and the sale and renting of the commodity to the second user and the collection of the commodity from the second user are performed in a second country, which is different from the first country.

- 10. (original) A commodity recycling method according to claim 9, wherein the dismantling of the commodity into a plurality of parts is performed in the second country.
- 11. (original) A commodity recycling method according to claim 10, wherein techniques for dismantling the commodity are transferred from the first country to the second country.
- 12. (original) A commodity recycling method according to claim 10, wherein a guidance on the techniques for dismantling the commodity is provided in the second country.
- 13. (original) A commodity recycling method according to claim 9, wherein the commodity includes a device for sending particular information which is particular to the commodity.
- 14. (original) A commodity recycling method according to claim 13, wherein the particular information includes distribution information for specifying a party involved in a distribution of the commodity, and when the particular information from the commodity ceases, notifies a party involved in the distribution of the commodity, which is specified by the distribution information included in the most recent piece of particular information from the commodity, that the particular information from the commodity has ceased.

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15. (currently amended) A commodity recycling method, comprising the steps of:

selling or renting the commodity to a first user in a first country;

collecting the commodity from the first user in the first country;

estimating a remaining life of the commodity based on information indicating a usage history of the commodity recorded in a recording section provided in the commodity;

determining sale terms or lease terms based on the estimated remaining life of the commodity; and

exporting the commodity for sale or rental, <u>in accordance with the sale terms or the lease</u> <u>terms</u>, in a second country, which is different from the first country.

16. (currently amended) A commodity recycling method, comprising the steps of:

importing a commodity sold or rented to a first user and collected from the first user in a first country into a second country, which is different from the first country;

estimating a remaining life of the commodity based on information indicating a usage history of the commodity recorded in a recording section provided in the commodity;

determining sale terms or lease terms based on the estimated remaining life of the commodity;

selling and renting the commodity to a second user in the second country, <u>in accordance</u> with the sale terms or the lease terms; and

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collecting the commodity from the second user in the second country.